Sri F. X. DENIS PINTO.—What about the ladies? If the Board stops electricity, they will also bawl out. Laughter).

Sri KADIDAL MANJAPPA.—With regard to the arrears due from Government departments, I should submit that on account of the dispute with regard to the rates, the amount cannot be paid by the Government departments.

Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.—You have already recovered the cost and the interest on the meters. It is an unconcionable levy and I think you are exposing yourself to criticism and legal complication in the fullness of time.

Sri KADIDAL MANJAPPA.—Anyhow, the suggestion will be borne in mind.

With regard to establishment charges, I should say that they are not higher than the those prevailing in other areas.

With regard to the point raised by Mr. Mallaradhya that exemptions have been given to certain private electrical undertakings, the law now in force provides for certain controls over those private undertakings. If they have to be nationalised, a legislation is necessary. The matter is engaging the attention of the Government and even without nationlisation, it is quite possible to have necesary controls over those undertakings.

Sri J. B. MALLARADHYA.—Andhra has made nationalisation.

Sri C. K. RAJAIAH SETTY.—What is the difference of that one crore?

Sri KADIDAL MANJAPPA.—I was coming to that point. It was a printing mistake. I would draw the attention of the Hon'ble Member to page 6. The figures furnished with regard to both Hydel and Diesel are correct.

One point was mentioned, namely that there is not enough autonomy to the Board. I do not know what the Hon'ble Members mean by saying that there is not enough autonomy to the Board. The Board is constituted; it is quite justified for Government to call for reports from the Board. We are responsible to you. You find fault with us if something goes wrong. Should we not know what is happening in the Board?

Sri M. C. NARASIMHAN.—The Act lays down in what matters you should give directions to the Board. Our complaint is that you have not fulfilled those obligations. On the other hand, you transgress its autonomy and prevent it from functioning properly. So far as the Kerala State is concerned, Government have given power to the Electricity Board in the matter of pay scales and certain minor things. Here for everything they have to come to you and you will never take a decision.

Sri KADIDAL MANJAPPA.—The other point raised by Mr. Mallaradhya is, that there are several references sent bythe Electricity Board, pending before Government.

Sri C. K. RAJAIAH SETTY.—Here 11 points are printed and placed before us.

Sri KADIDAL MANJAPPA.—They are very important points and they require time. My friend Mr. V. Srinivas Setty was pleased to say that Government was very sensitive to criticism. Not at all. My friend Sri Muckannappa in season and out of season and with reason or without reason goes on criticising the Government. If the criticism is justified, we take it seriously. If it is not justified we simply keep quiet.

Finally, I must thank the Hon'ble Members for giving certain valuable suggestions. Those suggestions will be considered by Government sympathetically. I am sorry I could not cover all the points though I have got the necessary material with me. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for giving me time.

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## Half-an-hour discussion in respect of answer to Starred Question No. 75.

Sri M. C. NARASIMHAN (Kolar Gold Fields).—Half-an-hour discussion is put down for to-day. I will only speak a few words because I see the House will not bear with me. Also, the Chief Minister is here.

The question is rather important. so, I request the Hon'ble Members to bear with me for a few minutes. The only point which arises out of this motion is,

(SRI M. C. NARASIMHAN)

the need for the setting up of a separate Board to look into the problems of scarcity areas.

Sir, when there is a Board for the Malnad Development, I do not see any reason why a similar board should not be created to look into the special problems of scarcity areas and why it should be refused. Malnad is the question of development of areas, but scarcity areas is a question of prevention. If it is viewed from every point, there is a justification for its creation. In this connection I would like to invite attention to the Ashok Mehta Committee Report.

Every year scarcity relief works are done but they will not be useful during the next year. In view of the fact that scarcity conditions will be occurring every now and then and in view of the fact that sufficient attention cannot be devoted and in view of the fact that these problems have got to be solved on long term basis, I request the Government to create a special Board on the lines of the Malnad Development Board. The Malnad Development Council's recommendations do not seem to receive adequate attention, but I suggest that atleast the recommendations of this body should receive adequate attention from the Government.

†SRI B. D. JATTI (Chief Minister).— Sri Narasimhan has made a very valuable suggestion. But looking into the present financial position, I do not think, it is possible for the Government to form any Board. He also quoted the Malnad Development Board. It is really a special Board; it has no money; it has no staff; no proper work is being done, which is a fact which has to be accepted. At the most that Board can move in the Malnad area and make some suggestions to the different departments to take up work. If that is the purpose for which this Board is sought to be created, perhaps it will not be correct. In all these areas where there is scarcity, it is only due to failure of rain-fall. So, there are only two possibilities to avoid this scarcity condition. (1) To construct tanks and to sink wells and take up some bunding works and social conservation work. To that extent, it will be helpful for the farmers to grow more food. That will avoid scarcity conditions. (2) In case it is not possible to take up such works which I just now mentioned, the only alternative will be to start some small scale industries looking into the conditions prevailing In those areas. These are the only two possibilities in which we could avoid scarcity conditions in those areas.

I wish to suggest to the Hon'ble Members who have made this proposal that instead of having a separate Board, a Sub Committee of the State Development Council or an Advisory Body, taking the representatives from the scarcity areas, can be formed and they should tour in those scarcity areas and make valuable suggestion for taking up some of the minor irrigation works and starting some small scale industries. I hope this will satisfy the Hon'ble Member who has moved this motion.

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**Statistical statement of Starred, Unstarred Questions, Half-an-hour Discussion, Adjournment Motions, etc., as on 30th April 1959.**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER.— Sri B. Shamsunder and Shri G. P. Sarvesh have given to me in writing that they have joined the Praja Socialist Legislature Party and have requested me to allot seats in the P.S.P. block. This will be attended to during the next session.

I am making a statistical statement of starred questions, half-an-hour discussion, adjournment motion, etc., as on 30th April 1959.

BUDGET SESSION, 1959

**1. Starred Questions.**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| No. of Questions tabled | ... | 653 |
| No. of Questions admitted | ... | 617 |
| No. of Questions answered | ... | 524 |

**2. Unstarred Questions.**

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|---|---|---|
| No. of Questions tabled | ... | 172 |
| No. of Questions admitted | ... | 156 |
| No. of replies laid on the Table of the House | | 57 |